

REMARKS

Claims 9-15 and 19-26 are pending, with claims 1, 14, 19, and 26 being independent. Claims 1-8 and claims 16-18 have been cancelled by this amendment without waiver or prejudice. Claims 22-26 have been added by this amendment. No new matter is being added.

Claims 9-15 and 17-21 have been identified as allowable. Applicants thank Examiner for this indication of allowable subject matter.

Rejections under Section 102

Claims 1-3, 5, and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Yagasaki (U.S. 6,125,353). Claims 1-3, 5, and 16 have been cancelled, thereby rendering the rejection moot.

Rejections under Section 103

Claims 4 and 6, which depend from independent claim 1, stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over cancelled in view of Russell-Falla et al. (U.S. 6,266,664). Claims 4 and 6 have been rejected, thereby rendering the rejection moot.

Claims 7 and 8, which depend from independent claim 1, stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yagasaki in view of Sundaresan (U.S. 6,606,620). Claims 7 and 8 have been cancelled, thereby rendering the rejection moot.

New Claims

New claims 22-25 depend from allowable independent claim 19. Furthermore, new claims 22-25 recite features similar to those recited in allowable dependent claims 10-13, respectively. For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully request allowance of new claims 22-25.

New independent claim 26 recites similar features as allowable independent claims 9 and 19. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of new claim 26.

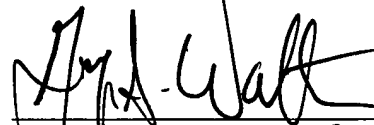
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No fees are believed to be due. However, during the prosecution of this application,
please apply any deficiencies or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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